

20
23

ANNUAL
report



Camp Fire
Alaska



TABLE OF *contents*



TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	PAGE 1
MISSION.....	PAGE 2
LETTER FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT & CEO.....	PAGE 3
HISTORIC CEO TRANSITION.....	PAGE 4
WHAT WE DO.....	PAGE 6
2023 AT A GLANCE.....	PAGE 7
SUPPORTING FAMILIES.....	PAGE 8
OPERATION PURPLE.....	PAGE 10
CAMP FIRE IMPACT.....	PAGE 11
CAMP FIRE ALASKA LOCATIONS.....	PAGE 13
REACHING RURAL ALASKA.....	PAGE 15
2023 WINS.....	PAGE 17
GENEROUS SUPPORTERS.....	PAGE 18
LEGACY CIRCLE & FIRE TENDER'S SOCIETY.....	PAGE 20
CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN SOCIETY.....	PAGE 22
SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS.....	PAGE 23
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	PAGE 24
FINANCIALS.....	PAGE 25

OUR *mission*



Every child will have the opportunity to discover the best in themselves and others in a fun, safe learning environment.



letter from our BOARD PRESIDENT & CEO

The 2023 Annual Report highlights the extraordinary, everyday impact of Camp Fire Alaska's programs on Alaska's children and families—all thanks to generous donors like you. The difference your support has made across our state is reflected on the pages within.

This past year marked a historic transition for our organization with the retirement of our longtime CEO and champion, Barbara Dubovich. We dedicate this annual report to her, honoring her legacy and her profound impact on generations of Alaskans.

In 2023, we stayed focused on the recovery of our programs, expanding our Before and After School Programs with the opening of two additional locations to a total of 18. Our summer camps operated at full capacity, and the Rural Alaska Program, particularly, served almost 2,500 youth in 34 rural Alaska communities.

It is the connections made within our programs—as well as within our broader community of stakeholders—that make Camp Fire Alaska strong and able to best serve the diverse needs of our communities. With heartfelt appreciation to our generous donors, invaluable partners, tireless advocates, and committed team, THANK YOU for helping Alaskan families and communities Count on Camp Fire.



Mel Hooper
PRESIDENT AND CEO



Jodi Gould
BOARD PRESIDENT

HISTORIC CEO TRANSITION

Milestones Along the Way

1981

- Barbara Dubovich Hired
- Camp Fire opens first licensed afterschool program in Anchorage

2003

- Barb moves into leading the agency as CEO

2011

- Melanie (Mel) Hooper hired onto the Program Leadership Team, serving over 5000 youth each year

2021

- Camp Fire Alaska receives a legislative citation for dynamic pandemic response

2023

- A successful transition occurs as Barb retires and Mel accepts the role of President and CEO

1981-2003

- Afterschool programs grew from 3 sites to 30 sites, serving over 1200 youth daily

2007

- \$5M+ Capital Campaign helped increase Camp K capacity by 60%
- Camp K is renamed

2018

- Camp Fire provides emergency childcare in response to Earthquake

2022

- During Barb's tenure as CEO the annual budget increased from \$3M to \$9M





"In 2023,

there were some significant changes in leadership. Knowing that leadership transitions can be difficult, it was both relieving and incredible to see how smoothly it went. This makes me feel so confident in the strength of our organization — our history, partnerships, donors, board, and staff.

—CAMP FIRE STAFF



What We Do



Rural Alaska Program

We bring day camp experiences to communities across Rural Alaska, focusing on wellness, cultural and intergenerational connections, and encouraging community engagement.

Summer Camps

Camp K, Camp Fireweed, and Summer Adventure Camp — three summer camps operating in five locations, serving youth ages 5-17. We really do have something for everyone! There is an overnight camp, an outdoor day camp, and a licensed day camp program.

School Programs

Our before and after school programs are the cornerstone of our organization, where we deliver quality school-age programming in elementary schools throughout Anchorage and Eagle River.

Community Centers and Learning Pods

Serving youth at no cost to families, these programs are offered before and after school, during school breaks, and over the summer at five different program sites.

Teen Leadership Programs

Serving teens ages 14-17, the Leader in Training Program at Camp K and the Counselor in Training Program at Camp Fireweed provide engaging learning and training opportunities that support the development of leadership skills.

2023

At A Glance



4,007

TOTAL YOUTH SERVED

\$1,094,444

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DISTRIBUTED
THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS AND
NON-FEE-BASED PROGRAMS

2,445

RURAL ALASKA YOUTH SERVED
AT NO COST TO FAMILIES

Supporting Families

Throughout 2023, we heard stories from many families who needed support to continue using our before and after school services. These families wanted their children to be in a safe place before and after school, but with the rising cost of living, many of these families simply could not afford childcare. These families were experiencing a variety of challenges including being displaced from jobs, living on a single income, deployment or death of a spouse, high tuition fees, housing costs, and unexpected medical bills.

With such an overwhelming need, we were grateful to be able to provide financial assistance to a record number of families this year. \$1,094,444 — an amount made possible through the generosity of our donors, funders, and remaining COVID funds — was distributed to families for youth to access Camp Fire programs.

Over One Million Dollars provided in financial assistance





"We are so happy
with the Camp Fire program. It allows
my husband and I to work. Without
Camp Fire's Before and After School
Program at Inlet View, our careers
would not be possible."

—CAMP FIRE PARENT



Operation Purple

Camp Fire Alaska supports military youth through Operation Purple® Camp, a special week of summer camp at Camp K in partnership with the National Military Family Association. This camp, supported by donors and offered at no cost to families, allows youth to build connections through the shared challenges and circumstances of being in a military family.

One of the hardest parts of military life is when a parent is deployed or their job becomes especially demanding, leading many military youth to take on extra responsibilities in their families. Older siblings are often relied upon to support their younger siblings.

Our Camp K Director witnessed this firsthand in 2023 with a group of three siblings. The previous year, the oldest of the three said he wasn't coming back to camp, only to arrive in 2023 with his two younger siblings in tow. One day when his younger sister was especially homesick, she joined the older group of youth to be with her brothers. While they were in the large group Q&A session, instead of sitting with his friends, the oldest chose to sit with his arm around his little sister to comfort her. Although this may seem like a simple gesture for a sibling to do, it is just one of many ways military youth must constantly adapt to their family's needs.

It is especially important that these kids, who serve in their own way, have the opportunity to bolster their love for the outdoors, disconnect from their daily lives, and experience just being a kid for a week.



In 2023 we served

88 Military Youth

at Operation Purple Camp



Our Impact



95%

of youth demonstrated an increase of life skills such as problem solving and critical thinking

90%

of youth feel they have a caring adult they can turn to

98%

of caregivers report their child learning new ways to regulate emotions and express themselves appropriately.

100%

of caregivers report that Camp Fire provides a safe and supportive learning environment for their child, and they can maintain employment because of Camp Fire programs.



Camp Fire
Alaska

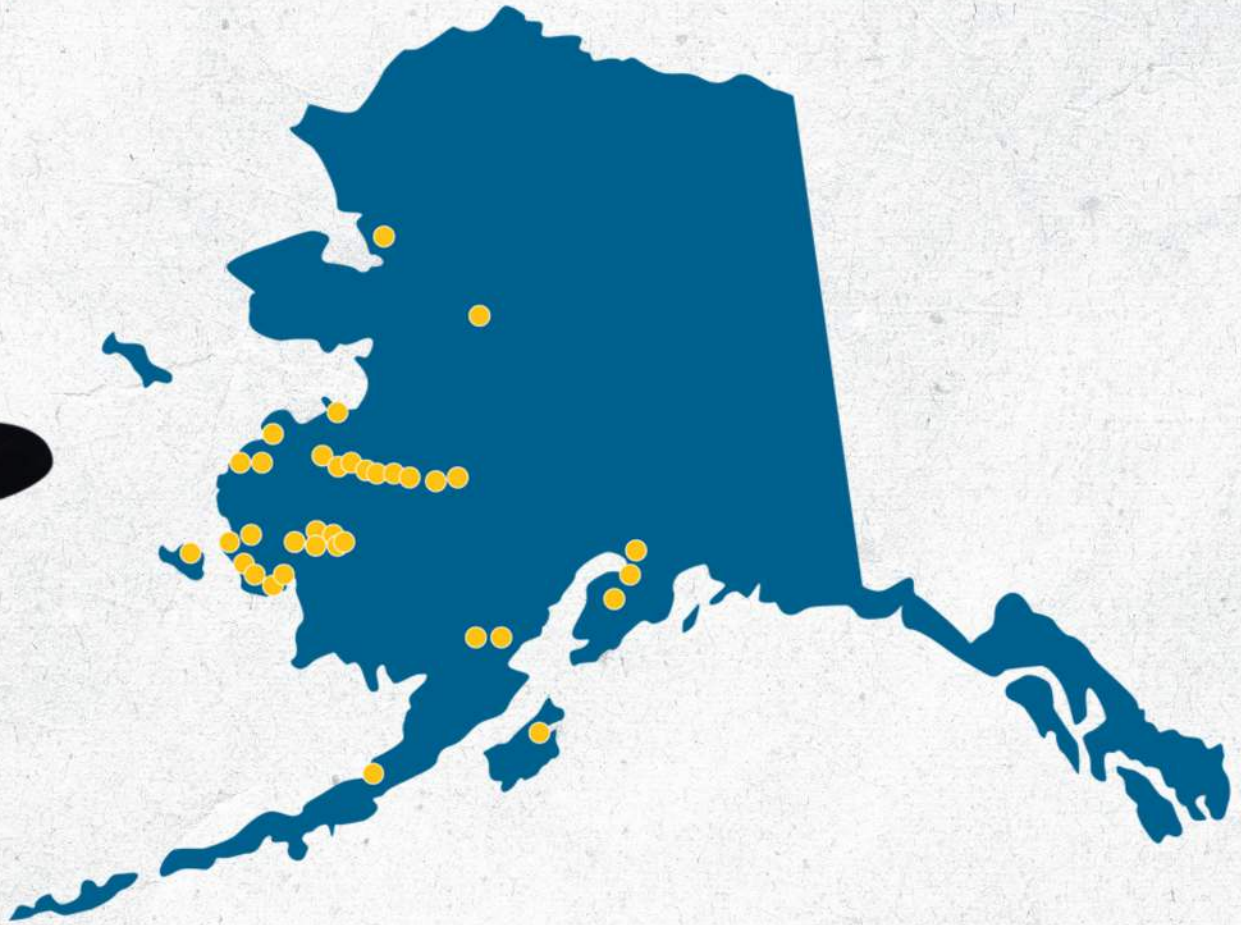
"I love the staff

BECAUSE THEY'RE SMART, KIND,
FUNNY, AND MORE. THEY GIVE ME
SOMEONE TO TALK TO AND A FRIEND.

— CAMP FIRE YOUTH



37 Program Locations



AFOGNAK, AKIACHAK, AKIAK, ALAKANUK, ANCHORAGE, ANIAK, ATMAUTLUAK, CHEFORNAK, CHEVAK, CHUATHBALUK, COOPER LANDING, EAGLE RIVER, HOOPER BAY, KIANA, KIPNUK, KONGIGANAK, KOTLIK, KWETHLUK, KWIGILLINGOK, LAKE CLARK, LOWER KALSKAG, MARSHALL, MEKORYUK, MOUNTAIN VILLAGE, NAPAKIAK, NAPASKIAK, NEWHALEN/ILIAMNA, NULATO, PITKAS POINT, PORT HEIDEN, RUSSIAN MISSION, SCAMMON BAY, ST. MARY'S, TOKSOOK BAY, TUNUNAK, TUNTUNTULIAK, UPPER KALSKAG.



Thank you

for all you do with the kids. It doesn't go unnoticed. Camp Fire really makes a difference here."

—ATMAUTLUAK
COMMUNITY MEMBER



Reaching Rural Alaska

2023 Annual Report | Page 15

In partnership with Camp Fire Alaska's overnight camp in Cooper Landing, Camp K, the Leader in Training (LIT) program was launched for Rural Alaskan teens ages 15 and up. All LITs receive a stipend for their participation and travel costs are covered by Camp Fire through scholarships.

Three teens from Kongiginak joined the LIT program alongside 11 other teens from Anchorage, Eagle River, and the Kenai Peninsula for the four-week session at Camp K. The first week they experienced camp as a camper, the second week they transitioned to working with younger campers, and the final two weeks they were assisting with group management and conflict-resolution. They enjoyed making connections with everyone at Camp K and exploring the Kenai Peninsula during their time off. LIT participants were excited to be able to teach one another and share about their cultural heritage with campers and staff through Native Youth Olympic games, as well as traditional drumming, songs, and dances.



why it matters

Partnering between programs to bring teens from Rural Alaska to Camp K provides a unique opportunity for teens to make connections, gain leadership skills and experience that they can bring back to their home communities.



"It's a really great experience and you won't regret it. You get to make friends that feel like family. It teaches you leadership skills and is a great opportunity to grow your resume."

- 2023 LEADER IN TRAINING



2023 *Wins*

2023 Annual Report | Page 17



CAMP FIREWEED NAME CHANGE

After 60 years of being known as Camp Si-La-Meo, Camp Fire Alaska's outdoor day camp is now Camp Fireweed. Though the name has changed, the program will remain the same. This nine-month process invited many voices and viewpoints, of which we are very appreciative. Roughly 76 name suggestions were collected from staff, campers, and the community!

AWARDS IN ALASKA AND BEYOND

For the first time in Camp Fire Alaska history, we were awarded PLATINUM title in Best of Alaska for Child Care AND Best of Alaska for Summer Camp! Additionally we were awarded the "You Belong Award", by Camp Fire National, to recognize affiliates who are leading the way in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion .

EVENT SUCCESSES

The 20th annual Champions for Children breakfast was one to remember. A historic snow storm couldn't keep donors from ensuring we surpassed our goal, raising more than \$185,000 to support Camp Fire kids. And the women at the Wild Women Retreat raised the bar yet again with donations for Camp K and Camp K Scholarships all while enjoying a fun and relaxing overnight at camp.





2 0 2 3
Generous Supporters

In 2023, hundreds of donors, dozens of program partners, and many volunteers supported Camp Fire Alaska's mission offering their unique gifts and resources to cultivate and nurture the lives of youth and families across the state.

349

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

45

IN KIND DONORS

64

PICK.CLICK.GIVE. DONORS

91

MONTHLY & PLEDGE DONORS



"The kids

LOVE being outdoors, and they love summer camp. It is the highlight of their summer, and they are sad when their camp session ends."

— CAMP FIRE PARENT



Legacy Circle

Donors who have generously included Camp Fire Alaska in their wills or estate plans

Blythe Campbell
Bob and Carol Waters
Dianne Toebe
Eva Budzinski

Heather Flynn
Scott and Sara Pate
Steve and Jan Fishback
The Estate of Jim and Pinkie Richardson

Firetender's Society

Lifetime donor of \$100,000 or more

Alaska Community Foundation
Assoc. of Village Council Presidents
Atwood Foundation
BP Foundation,
ConocoPhillips Alaska
Cook Inlet Housing Authority
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Ed & Cathy Rasmuson
ExxonMobil
GCI
Judy Rasmuson
Leo Bustad & Jeanne Davis

Mat-Su Health Foundation
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Municipality of Anchorage
Northrim Bank
Rasmuson Foundation
Robert & Linda Felland
State of Alaska Department of Health
thread
United Way of Anchorage
Wells Fargo Foundation
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation





Camp Fire
Alaska


“My favorite part [about Camp Fire] is that I have fun with friends and people care about me.

I feel like I belong here.”

— CAMP FIRE YOUTH

Champion for Children Society

Our Champions for Children Society members have committed \$1,000 a year or more for at least five years. This steady support gives Camp Fire Alaska the flexibility to take strategic and immediate action on priority needs for the youth and families we serve.



Adrianna Muir
Alaska Career College
Alex & Colette Slivka
Alexandra McKay
Amy Costello
Barb Ervin
Barbara Dubovich
Barb & Bill Rosetti
Carmen Gutierrez
Christina Rodriguez
Dave & DeAnne Rand
Diana V. Lopez
Elstun Lauesen
Eric McCallum
Eric Billingsley
Heather Flynn
Jadee Draughn
James & Mary Miner

Jason & Shannon Metrokin
Jodi Gould
Josie Hickel
Jon Katcher & Kate Michaels
Karrie Young
Katherine & Justin Burrill
Katie & Justin Bates
Kaylee Devine
Keith Manternach
Kendalyn Mckisick
Kerry Reardon-Scher
Kevin Lubbers
Lisa and Bob Doehl
Luz Smeenk
Lynn Wolfe
Mary Knopf & Craig Rice
Matthew Hirschfeld
Melanie & Jesse Hooper

Melissa & Tyrel Williams
Michael Divens
Michele Schuh
Nichole Gifford
Pat Byrne
Randy Johnson
Ray Dinger
Rhonda Oliver
Roger Hickel Contracting Inc
Ruth Rosewarne-Kimerer
S. Lynn Erwin
Sara Pate
Sean Elder
Sherrie Simmonds
Steve & Jan Fishback
Tamie Taylor
Walter & Audrie Williams
Weaver Bros.

Corporate, Organization, and Foundation Supporters

49 Writers
Alaska Airlines Community Advisory Board
Alaska Career College
Alaska Commercial Company
Alaska Community Foundation
Alaska Sealife Center
Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
Amazon Smile
American Legion Post #5
Anchorage Museum
ANTHC Diabetes Prevention Dept.
Association of Village Council Presidents
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Bristol Bay Native Corporation
Camp Fire, National Headquarters
Cathedral Pole and Dance
ConocoPhillips Alaska
Cook Inlet Housing Authority
Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc
Cooper Landing Brewing Company
Dawn Gerety
Donlin Gold
Double Shovel Cider Co.
DOWL LLC
First National Bank of Alaska
FisheWear
Food Bank Of Alaska

Fred Meyer Fund
GCI
Global Credit Union Foundation
Goose Creek Correctional Center
Great Harvest Bread Company
Green Connection
Greywind Designs
Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation
Hotel Captain Cook
Jacqueline Carr Fund
Jim and Vicki Jansen Foundation
John C. Hughes Foundation
John L. and Alice M. Mohr
Charitable Fund
Kaladi Brothers Coffee
KPMG
Ladies Auxiliary of the Fraternal
Order of Eagles Aerie 4207
Lu Young Children's Fund
Lynden Inc.
Major Marine Tours
Matson
Mat-Su Health Foundation
Navy League of the US,
Anchorage Council 151
Northern Air Cargo
Northrim Bank

Off The Chain
Own Glow Candle Co
Parker, Smith & Feek
Perkins Coie LLP
Petro Star Inc.
Picture This/Lilac Sunday Co
Premier Alaska Tours
Rasmuson Foundation
Sommer Family Charitable Fund
Taiga Mining Company, Inc.
The Foraker Group
Thread
Thrivent
TOTE Maritime Alaska
Two Friends Gallery
Verizon Foundation
Wilson Albers, Alera Group



2023

Board of Directors

Officers

Jodi Gould, Chair

Danny Rauchenstein, 1st Vice Chair

Sean Elder, 2nd Vice Chair

Jimmy Miner, Secretary

Katherine Burrill, Treasurer

Tom Mason, President Emeritus

Members

Katie Bates

Adrianna Muir

Kevin Lubbers

Jenifer Nelson

Lisa Booth

Anna Kohler

Amanda Biddle

Ruth Rosewarne Kimerer

Shannon Metrokin

Kaylee Devine



2023

Financials

The financials in 2023 represent a large amount of one-time child care stimulus funding to help stabilize our child care programs. These funds are recognized as revenue in 2023 and will continue to help cover deficit budgets. However, as these funds are utilized, we will continue to regrow and recover earned revenue and sustainable funding streams.

ASSETS

Current: \$7,356,093
Long-term: \$1,629,740
Property: \$4,531,066
Total Assets: \$13,516,899

LIABILITIES

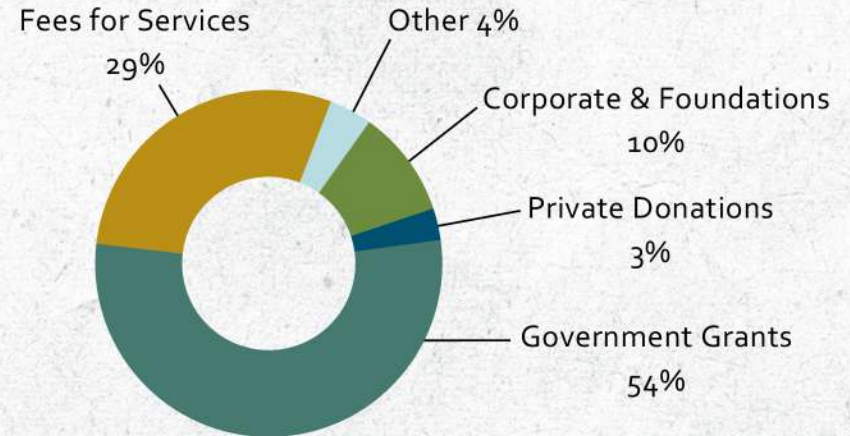
Current \$1,690,733
Other \$674,908
Total Liabilities \$2,365,641

NET ASSETS

\$11,151,258

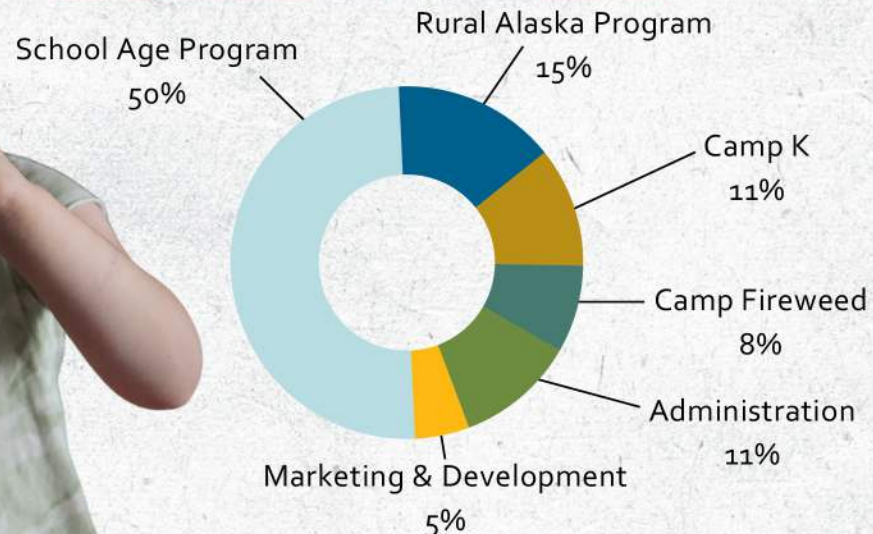
TOTAL INCOME:

\$10,292,983



TOTAL EXPENSES:

\$7,168,021





Thank you!

Everything in this report and so much more is made possible thanks to the support and generosity of our incredible donors.



Camp Fire
Alaska